

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

his earnestness is evidently the fruit of reflection as well as of passion.

THE TEACHER'S HAND-BOOK. By W. P. PHILIP, M. A. Ithaca, pp. 380. A. S. Barnes & Co.

Dr. Hall is understood to be a practitioner of the old school, but he here administers his prescriptions for the preservation of health and the attainment of long life in homopathic doses. What they lack in quantity, however, is made up by frequency of repetition. You need only read a few pages to master the great secret of hygiene, and often the remainder is mere overplus, telling the same story in different words. The directions of the author, for the most part, are as sound as they are short. It does not take long to tell you that you must live according to nature, and the consequence will be health, peace of mind, and length of years. Dr. Hall is no cynic, nor ascetic. He goes in for the good things of this life, but would teach you to see them without abusing them. No doubt his maxims save a little of medical Tupperism, but Tupperian, though odious in poetry, is a good thing in itself, and highly favorable to health. Hence it would seem that with all our boasted improvements in education, there is little headway made against the increase of popular ignorance. In order to meet the evil, a kind of culture adapted to the masses of the people is a prime necessity. The discipline of the school should prepare the child for the discipline of life. The country schoolmaster, accordingly, holds a position of vital interest to the destiny of the republic, and should neglect no means for the wise and efficient discharge of his significant functions. This is the key-note of the present excellent volume. In view of the supreme importance of the teacher's calling, Mr. Phelps has presented an elaborate system of instruction in the elements of learning, with a complete detail of methods and processes, illustrated with abundance of practical examples and enforced by judicious counsels, which may serve as aid to the teacher in the performance of his arduous duties, and in the attainment of the highest excellence in his profession. The author's directions may not always be accepted without challenge by experienced instructors, who, however, are encouraged to think for themselves, but they are always suggestive, and cannot fail to be of signal value to those who are just entering upon their professor and beginning to comprehend its difficulties, as well as to discover its secrets. Mr. Phelps's style is often too diffuse, but he takes too little for granted, and urges obvious truths with undue vehemence, but his counsels may be made available to the best practical effect, and a wide acquaintance with his work by the teachers of the country would be a public benefit.

A COMPLETE COURSE OF GEOGRAPHY. By WILLIAM SWINTON. 476 pp. 12mo. Ivison & Co.

In the present manual of geography, the subject is treated in its physical, industrial, and political relations, without giving to either branch an undue predominance. The matter is distributed under the three heads of mathematical, physical, and political geography, the last two titles being considered in both a general point of view, and in connection with the respective countries that are described. In the case of the United States, a special geography of each State is presented, comprising the most important local details, in addition to the general statements which are found in the ordinary text-books.

The author has aimed to exhibit the results of the latest researches in a lucid and attractive form, furnishing a treatise, not only adapted for study in classes, but valuable as a book of reference for occasional consultation. The text is copiously illustrated with miscellaneous engravings as well as maps, which, as a rule, are of a superior order of execution, and much more suited to the pupil to practice his geographical knowledge without the danger of corrupting his taste.

TEMPORA MUTANTUR.

James Russell Lowell to the Nation.

The world turns mad! Democracy they say; Round the sharp knobs of character they say;

Of what we do, of what we say; Of what we say, of what we do; On the downward path Whose fiber grows too soft for honest wrath, And there's a subtle influence that springs From words too easily uttered, or from looks That are too easily given, or from a smile, or from a frown, or from a sigh, or from a groan,

That's to be pitied, but the State Forgetting function if not fixed as Fate.

"He who has nothing to do is the very one who has not time to do anything." Some of Dr. Hall's quaint rules for the conduct of husband and wife towards each other are worth remembering. For instance:

"Never be at any time, 'Never do another's bidding.'

"Never sit with the back to a window or door, even if closed, for the air coming in at a crack will certainly give a cold."

A very wholesome portion of the book consists of trite maxims, as the following, which though truisms, it always borne in mind, people would be the better for it.

"If you can't get good wages, work for your board rather than nothing and go in debt, or live on the earnings of another."

"He who does his work promptly, courageously, and well, in the long run will have as much as he can do."

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